Wilmington, Dec. 11th 1882

My Dear Dr. Gray,

We have been very much grieved to hear of your accident through a note from Mr. Watson received this morning, and sincerely hope that you have not and will not suffer very much from it. Mr. Watson says that it will delay your work a little but you must not think of that as a loss. Mr. Smith wrote me that he felt, from the tone of your note to him, that you were overworked. If this accident does not give you much pain or does not result in permanent injury it may be a blessing. Somewhere I have read that Prescott, after accomplishing one of his works, always did some "literary loafing". If you only knew how to "loaf"! From personal experience I can recommend it as being perfectly delightful.

After you are well enough to travel would not a

journey this way do you good. It would be a great delight to see you and Mrs. Gray here. The weather will probably be charming here for some time yet and the country is also very pretty.

You will be pained to hear, that day before yesterday I met Rothrock in Phila. with both hands tied up. He had become blood-poisoned while performing an operation and told me that he had been making necessary arrangements at the University and was going home to go to bed. I could not help thinking of young Dr. Engelmann and what a time he had in the same way. But I do hope Rothrock's trouble may not be serious.

Mrs. Canby sends her warm sympathy with and regards for you and Mrs. Gray in which I heartily join.

Do not write until you are fully able - but believe me

Yours most sincerely,

Wm. M. Canby